

ADMIN.
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11 March 1949

Mr. George V. Allen
Assistant Secretary
Department of State
Washington 25, D.C.

Dear Mr. Allen:

In accordance with your request of 24 February 1949 the necessary additions to the Foreign Broadcast Information Branch Table of Organization have been authorized and instructions have been issued to increase the wire service to your International Broadcasting Division in New York to sixteen hours daily as soon as the added staff can be processed and entered on duty, which will be accomplished at the earliest possible date. In the interim, the ten hour per day service which was increased from eight hours beginning 8 February 1949 will be continued.

It is regretted that it is not possible to furnish IED with items monitored in England with sufficient speed to permit IED to compete with the British Broadcasting Corporation in broadcasts based on such material. Every effort is being made to reduce the time lag to a minimum, but the time, space and communications factors involved do not permit us to compete with the BBC in this respect.

It is gratifying to know that the FBIB output is found extremely valuable and it is a pleasure to cooperate in providing the service. Whether or not a twenty-four hour per day service can eventually be provided will depend on budgetary considerations. In any event requests for further extension of the service as far in advance as possible will be greatly appreciated since, aside from budgetary considerations, approximately six months are normally required to provide additional staff.

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4 March 1949

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R. N. Hellenhaetter
Rear Admiral, USN

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